

**Catawba County Board of Health**  
**Minutes**  
**August 12, 2019**

The Catawba County Board of Health met on Monday, August 12, 2019 at 7:00 pm at Catawba County Public Health, 3070 11<sup>th</sup> Ave Dr. SE, Hickory, NC 28602 in the Boardroom.

**Members Present:** Dr. David C. Hamilton, Jr, Chair  
Dr. Matthew Davis, Vice-Chair  
Mr. Dan Hunsucker, County Commissioner  
Mr. John H. Dollar  
Dr. Dana H. Greene  
Dr. Gale Hamilton-Brandon  
Ms. Susan Knowles  
Mr. William Pitts  
Ms. Gloria Costin  
Mr. Brian Potocki

**Members Absent:** None

**Staff present:** Mr. Douglas Urland, Health Director  
Ms. Jennifer McCracken, Assistant Health Director  
Ms. Julie Byrd, WIC Director  
Mr. Scott Carpenter, Environmental Health Supervisor  
Ms. Tania Harper, Interim Public Health Strategist  
Ms. Emily Killian, Community Engagement Specialist  
Ms. Chantae Lail, Medical Lab Manager/Preparedness Coordinator  
Ms. Megen McBride, Environmental Health Administrator  
Ms. Kim Spaulding, School Health Nurse Supervisor  
Mr. Jason Williams, Operations Administrator  
Ms. Debra A. Young, Administrative Assistant II

**Guests:** Ms. Ashley Rink, Community Health Coordinator  
Ms. Annie Haunton, Intern

**CALL TO ORDER**

Dr. David Hamilton, Jr., Chair, called the meeting of the Catawba County Public Health Board to order at 7:00pm. He welcomed Board members, Public Health managers, staff and guests.

**APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA**

Dr. David Hamilton, Chair, stated that Board members had received the agenda. Dr. Hamilton asked if there were any changes to the agenda and upon hearing none, he asked for approval of the agenda. Mr. John Dollar, made a motion to accept the agenda as presented and Mr. Brian Potocki seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

### **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

The minutes for June 10, 2019, were included in the Board packet that the Board members received via email. Dr. David Hamilton, Chair, asked if there were any corrections. There being no corrections, Mr. William Pitts made a motion to accept the minutes as presented and Mr. John Dollar seconded the motion. The June minutes were unanimously approved.

### **PUBLIC COMMENTS**

Dr. Hamilton asked if anyone presented to speak before the Board. Ms. Debra Young, Administrative Assistant II, stated that no one had presented to speak.

### **COUNTY COMMISSIONER'S COMMENTS**

Mr. Dan Hunsucker, County Commissioner, reported some highlights from the recent Board of Commissioners (BOC) meetings:

- Economic development continues in Sherrill's Ford and more spec buildings are being built in the Trivium Business Park on Startown Road.
- Downtown Hickory is finishing up renovations on the Square and the City of Newton is undertaking a lot of updates in the downtown area as well.

### **NEW EMPLOYEES**

Mr. Jason Williams, Operations Administrator, stated that there were no new employees to introduce to the Board this month.

### **2018-2019 YEAR-END OUTCOMES SUMMARY REPORT**

Ms. Tania Harper, Interim Public Health Strategist, gave an update on the 2018-19 Year-End Outcomes. The three overarching goals were to (1) improve the health and wellbeing of women, infants, children and families, (2) promote a culture of wellness in Catawba County by supporting communities and partnerships, and (3) to strengthen core public health functions to protect health and ensure the safety of the community.

There were 10 specific outcomes that fell under the three main goals:

- One of the outcomes could not be measured appropriately as the assessment tool was amended during the 2018-19 school year, so it was no longer comparable to the previous assessment. However, it was noted that there were some significant successes this year.
- Another goal was to promote long-term positive health outcomes regarding Tuberculosis (TB) patients that are identified as current tobacco users. While there was only one patient that fell into this category, for the fiscal year, this goal was met at 100%.
- Out of the 10 specific outcomes, eight were met, one was not comparable and two were not achieved.

Ms. Harper stated that it has been a very successful year and the team is already looking at current year outcomes to assess them and see where Catawba County Public Health can approve.

The Year-End Outcomes Report is attached to the Minutes.

Ms. Jennifer McCracken, Assistant Health Director, gave an update regarding the Tuberculin (TB) skin test shortage notification received from Dr. Stout, Medical Director at NCDHHS. The manufacturer notified the CDC of the interruption of supply of the PPD that could last from 3-9

months before normal production resumes. Due to the shortages, the CDC and NC TB Control Program have recommended that all low-risk testing for Tuberculosis be temporarily suspended. Patients who are considered high-risk take precedent for the available tuberculin. If a person is coming from a County where TB is active, then they will be able to receive a skin test as well. Catawba County Public Health has distributed this information to area practices, childcare centers, schools, etc. so they are aware of the shortage and recommendations.

#### **END OF YEAR DEMOGRAPHICS UPDATE**

Ms. Tania Harper, Interim Public Health Strategist, gave an update on the End of Year Demographics. She stated that this report is required by NC Local Health Department Accreditation. This report is for public health to use as a foundational tool and is reviewed annually. All of Public Health's clinical services and WIC are covered in the Demographics Report.

Ms. Harper informed the Board members and Public Health Supervisors that should they desire any additional information regarding demographics to please contact her or another team member as the system has a lot of data and customizable reports.

The PowerPoint presentation is attached to the minutes.

#### **2019 COMMUNITY HEALTH ASSESSMENT (CHA) STATUS UPDATE**

Ms. Tania Harper, Interim Public Health Strategist, gave an update on the Community Health Assessment (CHA) stating that the CHA is to compile a report on what the community looks like. The information obtained is used for grant funding and can be instrumental in decision making. The Community Health Opinion Survey is where Public Health hears from the community on what is important to them. Ms. Harper stated that Public Health staff and interns have really taken leadership in assisting with the distribution of the surveys and general information to the community.

To date, there have been 1,152 surveys collected and the overall goal is 2,000 surveys. Please help spread the word to the community and complete the survey yourself. Ms. Harper stated that currently the survey collection is around 75% female respondent's so it would be nice to receive more surveys from the male population. The deadline to complete the survey is September 1, 2019.

There were a few other comments/questions regarding the CHA/Community Health Opinion Survey:

- It was suggested to add a return address and/or the locations where surveys may be dropped off to the paper copy so patrons know where to return it.
  - Drop off locations within the county – library system, GHCCM, Catawba County Public Health front desk
- Why is the survey so long? Part of the reason is that about 20 community listening sessions were held earlier this year. The feedback obtained is what people within our community wanted to receive information on. There are also certain questions that must be asked within the survey.

A copy of the flyer is attached to the minutes.

### **ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH YEAR-END REPORT**

Ms. Megen McBride, Environmental Health Administrator and Mr. Scott Carpenter, Environmental Health Supervisor, gave a year-end report on Environmental Health. Ms. McBride stated that well and septic applications increased by 60 applications compared to last fiscal year. In the past year there were 3,512 requests for permits, 864 well and septic applications, 765 permits issued, 86 complaints investigated, 445 water samples taken and 4 new lead cases investigated.

It was stated that the Outcome for Environmental Health was not met. This involved the time to issue new construction onsite well and septic permit applications within fifteen process days. Out of the 765 permits issued, 45% of them were issued in 10 process days and 64% were issued in 15 process days. Ms. McBride noted that Environmental Health is fully staff now so this will improve next fiscal year.

Ms. McBride stated that there are land lots that are a problem and then there are the lots that become a problem. These problematic lots end up requiring multiple site visits and that takes a lot of time away from other areas. There are fees in the fee schedule that allow additional fees for each visit but it is not being used as much as it could be. There was discussion regarding the creation/use of a general information sheet that would give details as to what is expected before calling to schedule the site visit.

Mr. Scott Carpenter, Environmental Health Supervisor, gave an update on Food Lodging and Institution. He stated that there was an increase from 1,001 to 1,027 in total establishments to inspect and 2,385 inspections were completed. There were 98 new and existing establishment permits issues (including ownership changes) and 69 temporary food establishment permits issued.

Mr. Carpenter updated the Board regarding House Bill 735 that relates to the adoption of rules incorporating all or part of the most recent edition of the US FDA Food Code, Senate Bill 444 which is an act allowing food establishments to repurpose oyster shells as serving dishes and Senate Bill 290 that makes revisions to the Alcoholic Beverage Control Laws – Food and Lodging Sanitation Regulation – exempting breweries not engaged in the preparation of food.

The Environmental Health 2018-19 End of Year PowerPoint presentation is attached to the minutes.

### **HEALTH DIRECTOR'S REPORT**

Mr. Douglas Urland, Health Director, stated he had a few additional brief comments to report:

- Congratulations Megen McBride – Ms. McBride has been selected as the new Environmental Health Administrator.
  - Currently recruiting for Ms. McBride's prior position
  - Environmental Health is fully staffed at this time
- A draft of the 2019-2020 Board of Health Subcommittee members has been placed at your seat. Please review this and be prepared to review/discuss and vote on Subcommittee members at the September Board of Health meeting.

- Thank you to the Board of Health members that were willing to be reappointed to the Board for their next 3-year term.
- Local budget became effective July 1<sup>st</sup> – NC does not have a state budget approved yet – Catawba County is currently working off of a local budget that is predicated on the State budget.
- Communicable Disease funding to add local assistance – this funding is being held up until State passes the budget.
- Medicaid expansion – no movement at this time.
- Hickory Police Department – starting this month, an off duty police officer will be present in the building during Board of Health meetings. An email was sent to Board members regarding the specifics of this change.
- At the September Board meeting, a recap will be given of the regional McGuire drill exercise that is being held tomorrow.
- Reminder that the monthly infographics are included in Board packet.

#### **OTHER BUSINESS**

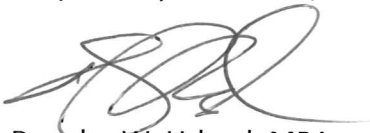
None

#### **ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business, Dr. David Hamilton asked for a motion to adjourn. Ms. Gloria Costin so moved, Mr. William Pitts seconded the motion, and Dr. Hamilton adjourned the meeting at 8:19 pm.

The next Board of Health meeting will be **September 9<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 p.m.**

Respectfully submitted,



Douglas W. Urland, MPA  
Health Director

DWU: day

*Approved by Board of Health: Monday, September 09, 2019*